THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Studio facilities at DDK, Shimla have not been fully utilised for want of creation of posts in the Programme and the Administrative cadres. However, the facilities are being utilised by redeployment of staff from other Kendras. 17 posts on the Engineering side only were created in the year 1997. Most of these posts are already filled up, facilitating the telecast of the programmes through a High Power Transmitter. The creation and filling up of posts of Programme and Administrative cadres is proposed to be done, as soon as the Staff Inspection Unit finalises the norms.

Broadcasting/Telecasting Stations in Maharashtra

585. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Broadcasting/telecasting stations working in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) whether the telecasting and broadcasting services are catering to the needs^ of entire Maharashtra, particularly the Adivasi District of the State;

(c) whether any demand or proposal for opening of such stations is pending with Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The details are given in the Statement. (See below).

(b) All India Radio and Doordarshan cover 98% and 86.5% of the population of the State respectively including those in tribal areas.

(c) and (d) Request for setting up of new Radio Station/TV centres are received from time to time from various sources and these are given due consideration while finalising the network planning.

Statement

District-wise Details of Doordarshan/Air Transmitters functioning in Maharashtra

SI. Ko.	District	No. of DDN Transmitters	No of Air Stations
1.	Ahmadnagar	2	
2.	Akola	5	
3.	Amravati	5	—
4.	Aurangabad	2	
5.	Bhandara	3	—
6.	Beed	3	
7.	Buldana	4	—
8.	Chandrapur	2	
9.	Dhule	5	
10.	Garhchiroli	3	—
11.	Greater Bombai	2	
12.	Jalgaon	3	
13.	Jalna	1	—
14.	Kolhapur	3	
15.	Nagpur	2	
16.	Nanded	4	
17.	Nasik	4	
18.	Osmanabad	2	
19.	Parbhani	2	
20.	Pune	2	
21.	Raigarh	5	—
22.	Ratnagiri	5	
23.	Sangli	1	
24.	Satara	3	
25.	Sindhudurg	2	—
26.	Sholapur	4	1

UT

SI. No.	District	No. of DDN Transmitters	No of Air Stations
27.	Thane	1	—
28.	Wardha	3	—
29.	Yavatmal	4	1
	Total	87	20
	TOTAL	87	

Note: Districts indicated above are as per 1991 Census.

Telecast of Art and Cultural Programmes through Doordarshan in Maharashtra

586. SHRI SURYA BHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) What is the policy and criteria framed by Government for telecast of art and cultural programmes through Doordarshan in Maharashtra, and since when these programmes are being telecast in different parts of Maharashtra;

(b) whether any new scheme has been introduced by Government in this behalf; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JATLEY): (a) Programme matters of Doordarshan fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati. Prasar Bharati have intimated that it has been the practice of Doordarshan Kendra, Mumbai as well as its relaying centres to telecast cultural programmes of Maharashtra especially during festivals and other important occasions since the very inception of the Kendra in 1972.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.